

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1-18 (Canceled)

19. (New) A tablet, consisting essentially of coated neutral microgranules and an excipient, wherein:

- a) the neutral microgranules are spherical of uniform diameter from 100 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ , and are directly compressible;
- b) the coating of the neutral microgranules consists essentially of a single layer coating of an active principle and optional binder such that the active principle constitutes less than 40mg/g of the tablet; and
- c) the excipient is a lubricant constituting less than 1% by weight of the tablet.

20. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the diameter of the neutral microgranules is from 200 to 400  $\mu\text{m}$ .

21. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the hardness of the tablet is from 0 to 20 daN.

22. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the friability of the tablet is from 0 to 1 %.

23. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the disintegration time of the tablet is less than 15 minutes.

24. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the lubricant is from 0.125 to 0.75% by weight of the tablet.

25. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the amount of active principle is less than 10 mg/g of the tablet.

26. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the size of the neutral microgranules is from 200 to 600  $\mu\text{m}$ .

27. (New) The tablet of claim 19, wherein the lubricant constitutes about 0.25% by weight of the tablet.

28. (New) A tableting premix consisting essentially of:

(a) from 99 to 100% by weight coated neutral microgranules;  
wherein said neutral microgranule coating consists essentially of a single layer of active principle and optional binder, and said neutral microgranules are 100 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter; and  
(b) a lubricant constituting from 0 to 1 % by weight of the premix;  
and wherein the premix is directly compressible.

29. (New) The premix of claim 28, wherein the active principle coated on the neutral microgranules is less than 4% by weight of the neutral microgranules.

30. (New) A process for the preparation of the tablet of claim 19, comprising direct compression of the composition of claim 28 by employing a compression force of from 5 to 50 kN.

31. (New) A process for the preparation of the tablet of claim 19, comprising direct compression of the composition of claim 28 by employing a compression force of 10 to 30 kN.

32. (New) A tableting premix consisting essentially of:

(a) from 99 to 100% by weight neutral microgranules coated with an active principle mixture,

wherein said neutral microgranules are 100 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter, and said active principle mixture consists essentially of an active principle and an optional binder, and said coating is free of any agent modifying release of the active principle or masking its taste; and

(b) a lubricant constituting less than 1 % by weight of the premix, and wherein the premix is directly compressible.

33. (New) A tablet consisting essentially of: coated neutral microgranules, an excipient, and a film coating on said tablet, wherein:

- a) the neutral microgranules are spherical of uniform diameter from 100 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ , and are directly compressible;
- b) the neutral microgranule coating consists essentially of a single layer of active principle and optional binder, wherein the active principle is less than 40 mg/g of the tablet, and said coating is free of any agent modifying release of the active principle or masking its taste;
- c) the excipient is a lubricant constituting less than 1% by weight of the tablet; and
- d) the tablet film coating restricts exposure of the active principle to light, moisture or oxygen; or modifies release of the active principle; or modifies the color or appearance of the tablet; or any combination thereof.